

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4671

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14106

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, UK (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R)

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO UK

REF: LONDON 14071

1. MASON'S PRIVATE SECRETARY CALLED EMBOFF TO CONFIRM THAT BRITISH WELCOME "FOUR US PRESS CORRESPONDENTS" TO JOIN SECDEF'S SEPTEMBER 25 ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD AND BRITISH WILL HAVE SOME UK PRESS CORRESPONDENTS ALSO. BRITISH FEEL THAT PRESS COVERAGE UP UNTIL BREAK FOR LUNCH IS SUFFICIENT, LEAVING AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES "PRIVATE".

2. ALTHOUGH NOT YET CERTAIN, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT SECRETARY MASON WILL NOT, REPEAT NOT, BE ABLE TO JOIN SECDEF FOR THE ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD AND HENCE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A "JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE". HOWEVER, UK REPRESENTATIVE "WILL BE AT TOP LEVEL" ALTHOUGH MOD IS UNABLE TO GIVE NAMES UNTIL MONDAY OR TUESDAY.

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3. AFTERNOON SCHEDULE 24 SEPTEMBER WITH VIPS NOW CON-

FIRMED AS FOLLOWS: 1630 ENNALS, MINISTER OF STATE, FCO;
1715 CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, 11 DOWNING ST.;
1745 PRIME MINISTER, 10 DOWNING STREET. BRITISH ASK THAT
WE PROVIDE ASAP "BROAD IDEA OF WHAT SPECIAL SUBJECTS"
SECDEF WISHES TO TAKE UP WITH EACH OF ABOVE. ONCE AGAIN
THE POINT WAS MADE THAT US ENTOURAGE FOR VIP SESSIONS BE
LIMITED TO "SECDEF PLUS NO MORE THAN TWO". LIKEWISE, AT
OFFICIAL WELCOME AT ROYAL SUITE, HEATHROW, IT IS HOPED
THAT US LOCAL OFFICIAL PRESENCE WILL BE LIMITED TO A
MODEST NUMBER. WE GET THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT WHILE
BRITISH ARE MOST CONCERNED THAT THE VISIT "BE WORTHWHILE"
FOR SECDEF, THEY DEFINITELY WANT IT TO BE "A BRITISH

SHOW".

RICHARDSON

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